

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 062060

62

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 SIG-02

EUR-12 IO-11 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 ARA-10

/083 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:JPOPE

APPROVED BY AF:WESCHAUFLE

NSC:MVANDERHYE (SUBS)

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

----- 003938

O 132215Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

ALL NATO CAPITALS

UNCLAS STATE 062060

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, RH (FORD, PRESIDENT GERALD)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT 'S COMMENTS ON RHODESIA

1. PRESIDENT FORD DISCUSSED RHODESIAN QUESTION IN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED MARCH 13 IN CHICAGO SUN-TIMES. WHITE HOUSE TRANSCRIPT NOT AVAILABLE TODAY, BUT FOLLOWING ARE RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM CHICAGO SUN-TIMES:(BEGIN TEXT):

2. SUN-TIMES: CAN YOU GIVE US ANY INKLING OF WHAT U.S. REACTION MIGHT BE IF SOVIET AND CUBAN PUSH CONTINUES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA?

3. PRESIDENT FORD: UNITED STATES, UNDER THIS ADMINISTRATION, IS TOTALLY DEDICATED TO SEEING TO IT THAT MAJORITY BECOMES RULING POWER IN RHODESIA. THERE ARE ABOUT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 062060

250,000 WHITES AND FOUR MILLION OR FIVE MILLION BLACKS, AS

I UNDERSTAND IT. OBVIOUSLY, IF WE BELIEVE IN THE RIGHT OF MAJORITY TO RULE IN THAT SITUATION THERE HAS TO BE A CHANGE IN THE POWER AS FAR AS GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED. WHETHER IT CAN BE DONE IS A QUESTION THAT WE HAVE TO FACE. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS TRIED FOR YEARS TO GET

(RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER IAN) SMITH TO MOVE. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN PUSHING. I THINK THEY JUST HAVE TO MOVE AND IF THEY DON'T I CAN'T PROMISE WHERE WE WILL STAND. WE HAVE TO BE ON RIGHT SIDE MORALLY AND RIGHT SIDE MORALLY IS TO BE FOR MAJORITY RULE.

4. NOW IF SOVIET UNION OR CUBA OR TWO TOGETHER PUT THEIR OWN POWER IN THAT'S A SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT SITUATION. HOW WE WOULD MEET THAT PROBLEM I CAN'T GIVE YOU A PAT ANSWER. IT'S ONE THING TO HAVE RHODESIAN BLACKS TAKE REINS OF GOVERNMENT; IT'S ANOTHER THING TO HAVE SOVIET UNION AND (CUBAN PRIME MINISTER FIDEL) CASTRO MOVE IN AND TAKE REINS IN RHODESIA. I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT OUR APPROACHES, WHATEVER THEY MIGHT BE, ARE BEING PUT TOGETHER CAREFULLY AT THIS TIME. (END CHICAGO SUN-TIMES EXCERPTS)

5. SUN-TIMES INTERVIEW PICKED UP BY REUTER. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REFORM, INTERVENTION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE062060
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JPOPE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760096-0375
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760362/aaaacddy.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUL 2004 by vandyklc>; APPROVED <30 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT 'S COMMENTS ON RHODESIA
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, US, RH, CU, UR, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: AF POSTS NATO POSTS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006